

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Registry of Motor Vehicles**

Motorcycle Manual



**P.O. Box 55889
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PREFACE

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) strictly prohibits the republication or reproduction of this manual without the express written consent of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. All requests for permission to copy all or any part of this publication must be addressed to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles for this work is protected by U.S. Copyright Law. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts owns the copyright to this work. Copyright laws prohibit the reproduction of the copyrighted work; distribution of copies of the copyrighted work; preparation of derivative works based upon the copyrighted work; displaying the copyrighted work publicly; and performing the copyrighted work publicly.

INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Motorcycle Manual is a supplement to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Driver's Manual. Motorcycle riders are urged to read and understand both manuals in an effort to help keep Massachusetts roads safe.

The Massachusetts RMV is confident that improved licensing, quality motorcycle rider education, increased public awareness and observance of motor vehicle laws, rules and regulations can help to reduce the potential for motorcycle related injuries in the Commonwealth.

The Massachusetts Motorcycle Manual has been prepared in cooperation with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation. This supplement details for motorcycle riders at all levels how to safely ride a motorcycle.

This manual is published by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. While it contains a great deal of information about RMV policies and state laws, it is important to note that this is not a legal document. Every effort is made to present the most accurate, error free, and up-to-date information. However, RMV policies and fees are subject to change from time to time, as do laws governing motor vehicles and their drivers.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Massachusetts RMV enables our citizens to travel the nation's roads safely by licensing drivers and providing registrations and titles for safe and environmentally sound vehicles.

MASSACHUSETTS RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM



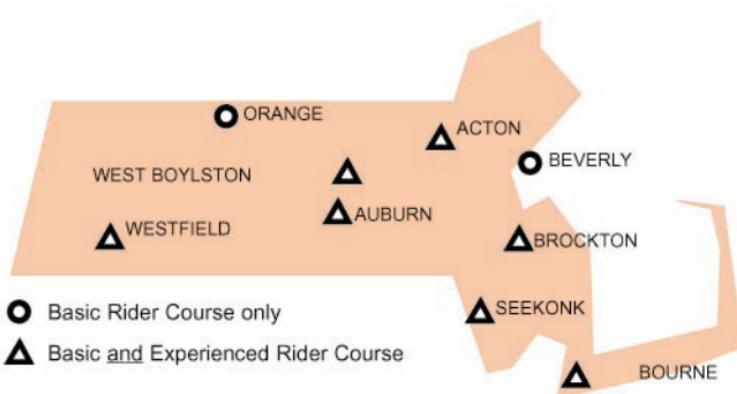
Sponsored by the Massachusetts RMV, the Massachusetts Rider Education Program (“MREP”) provides quality rider education and training to both novice and experienced motorcycle riders. The MREP is designed to assist riders of all levels and to promote the safe operation of motorcycles. Riders of all abilities are encouraged to attend and benefit from the professional instruction and on-cycle training offered through the MREP.

In the basic rider course students will learn motorcycling skills through classroom instruction and on-cycle training. In the experienced rider course, students will learn advanced riding techniques and defensive riding strategies. This curriculum has been developed by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (“MSF”) and is based on years of research.

The basic rider course is approximately fifteen (15) hours, with five (5) hours of classroom instruction and ten (10) hours of on-cycle instruction. The classroom instruction will cover motorcycling basics such as control, preparation, turning and braking, street awareness, special riding situations and the dangers of riding impaired. The on-cycle instruction will incorporate and apply the lessons learned in the classroom instruction. Students must attend all classroom and on-cycle sessions and pass both a multiple-choice examination and riding skills evaluation to graduate the program.

The experienced rider course is approximately seven (7) hours, integrating on-cycle range instruction with discussion topics covering motorcycle preparation, advanced street riding strategies, traction management and advanced braking and cornering techniques. Students must attend all sessions and pass both a multiple-choice examination and a riding skills evaluation to graduate from the program.

The MREP is currently being offered at numerous locations throughout the Commonwealth. Please direct all questions regarding the administration of the MREP to the Registry of Motor Vehicles, P.O. Box 55889, Boston, MA 02205-5889 or call 413-781-0633. Site availability is subject to change without notice. If you would like a brochure, call RMV/MREP Boston at 617-351-9585.



Qualified graduates of either the basic rider course or the experienced rider course are exempt from the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles motorcycle road examination and may be entitled to a ten percent (10%) discount on their Massachusetts-based motorcycle insurance.

The Massachusetts Rider Education Program, Classroom Availability, Fees, and General Information may be found at www.mass.gov/rmv.

